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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Evacuation of Swatow

DATE DISTR. 3 Oct. 1950

NO. OF PAGES 1

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ACQUIREDDATE OF
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1. In mid-September 1950 YEH Chien-ying; CH'EN Shih-ch'u (陳士渠), commander of the 11 Army Group, 3 Field Army; CHAO Erh-lu (趙爾陸), chief of staff of the 4 Field Army; and five Soviet advisers arrived in Swatow from Canton for an inspection tour.
2. On 18 September one division of the 10 Army Group under the command of YEH Fei arrived in Swatow from Amoy via Chaoan (117-12, 23-44).
3. On 20 September the Chinese Communists began to evacuate women, children and military supplies from Swatow. Trenches and defense works were begun in the city proper and along the coast.
4. About 20 September, families of Communist military and civil personnel were ordered to evacuate Swatow. No explanation was given. Military authorities are holding regular blackout drills, during which martial law is in effect.
5. It is rumored in Swatow that the evacuation was ordered because, in the event of a Communist invasion of Taiwan, Swatow would be the main air target for forces opposing the invasion.

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Document No.	004
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Auth: HQ 10-2	
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